

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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AMCONSUL BUKAVU
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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 11729

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP CG
SUBJECT: MILITARY PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED

1. SUMMARY; LOCAL NEWSPAPERS OF 12 DEC 77 ANNOUNCED
ELEVEN GENERAL FLAG PROMOTIONS FOR ZAIRE'S ARMED FORCES.
SIX COLONELS WERE SELECTED TO RECEIVE THEIR FIRST STAR
AND FIVE ACTIVE DUTY GENERALS WILL RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL
STAR. END SUMMARY.

2. DETAILS: BOTH KINSHASA NEWSPAPERS OF 12 DEC 77 GAVE
PROMINENT COVERAGE TO A 10 DEC ORDINANCE (77-343) SIGNED
BY PRES MOBUTU ANNOUNCING ELEVEN GENERAL/FLAG OFFICER
PROMOTIONS. THE INDIVIDUALS SELECTED AND DATES OF RANK
(DOR) ARE TO BE "GENERAL DE CORPS D'ARMEE/ (LTG) ,
BABIA ZONGBI MALOBIA/DOR 1 JUL 77
TO BE "GENERAL DE DIVISION" (MG)
SINGA BOYENGE DOR 1 JAN 77
DANGA NGBOKILI \$94 1 JUL 77
LIKULIA BOLONGO DOR 1 JUL 77

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BOTETI NKOKO EA NKANGA DOR 1 JUL 77

TO BE "GENERAL DE BRIGADE" (BG)
IKUKU BOBOTO DOR 1 JAN 77
BOPEYA LEKOBOKO DOR 1 JUL 77
DIKUTA EBILASANG DOR 1 JUL 77
MULIMBI MABILO DOR 1 JUL 77

KIKUNDA OMBALA DOR 1 JUL 77
TO BE "CONTRE-AMIRAL" (RADM)
LOMPONDA WA BOTENDE DOR 1 JUL 77

3. COMMENTS:

A. PROMOTIONS DO NOT COME AS ANY GREAT SURPRISE.

B. BRIGADIER GENERALS:

(1) KIKUNDA AND LOMPONDA, CHIEFS OF STAFF OF AIR FORCE AND NAVY RECEIVED RECOGNITION THEIR POSITIONS CALLED FOR. BOBEYA DIREITA GENERAL DDNST SINCE REORGANIZATION SIMILARLY HAS BEEN REWARDED FOR COMPETENT SERVICE. (2) IKUKU, DIKUTA AND MULIMBI EMERGED AS SUCCESSFUL BRIGADE COMMANDERS DURING THE 80 DAY WAR. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT IKUKU, AS THE BRIGADE COMMANDER, WAS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL AND PROBABLY FOR THAT REASON WAS GIVEN A JANUARY RATHER THAN JULY 77 DATE OF RANK.

C. MAJ GENERAL:

(1) SINGA AS OPERATION COMMANDER DURING THE MAJOR PORTION OF THE SHABA FIGHTING IS PLACED AS THE SENIOR MAJ GENERAL, THUS MAKING HIM FIRST AMONG EQUALS.

(2) LIKULIA, AUDITOR GENERAL, AND BOTETI, COMMANDER OF LOGISTICAL CORPS DID WELL IN MANAGERIAL POSITIONS AT FAZ HEADQUARTERS.

(3) DANGA'S PROMOTION IS AN ENIGMA. HE IS THE ONLY PROMOTEE WHO DID NOT FIGURE SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE 80 DAY WAR. HOWEVER, HE REPLACED SINGA AS FIELD CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMANDER AT KOLWEZI AFTER THE FIGHTING WAS OVER.

D. BABIA, WHOSE TITLE OF COORDINATOR OF GENERAL STAFF WAS AMPLY EARNED, IS NOW THE SENIOR ACTIVE DUTY GENERAL OF FAZ, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MOBUTU. BABIA'S PROMOTION (AS WILL THE OTHERS) AUGERS WELL FOR FAZ REORGANIZATION SINCE HW WAS DRIVING FORCE IN ITS FORMULATION AND IN SECURING INCREASED FRENCH AND BELGIAN ADVISORY PARTICIPATION.
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